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W90-1027.10. Michigan, Hamilton. Hamilton Reformed Church. Records, 1887-1981. 10.50 linear ft.



Abstract

The collection includes consistory and congregation meeting minutes, membership records, mission records, and a dedication service program of Hamilton Reformed Church. Also includes minutes of the American Reformed Church and documents concerning the merging of the two churches in 1944.

Accession No.: W90-1027
Provenance: Hamilton Reformed Church
Donor: Custody Agreement
Processed by: Laura M. Bachelder, November 1990
Krisia Rosa, December 2018

History

Hamilton Reformed Church in Hamilton, Michigan, also known as the First Reformed Church of Hamilton, was established in 1870 by the Board of Domestic Missions of the Reformed Church in America. In 1873, the congregation was put in the care of the Overisel Reformed Church and the church property was used by area Methodists due to the small number of people with a Reformed background. In 1887, Hamilton Reformed Church was reorganized and hosted visiting pastors until 1889 when Rev. A. H. Strabbing was called to the church. After a fire destroyed the American Reformed Church of Hamilton in 1944, the congregation of the First Reformed Church merged with that of the American Reformed Church. The name of the of congregation was formally changed to Hamilton Reformed Church on May 10, 1950, the day of the first service in the new church building, which was built on the same site.

Scope and Content

The collection contains the records of Hamilton Reformed Church from 1887 until 1981. Included are records of accepting or dismissing members and baptisms from 1881 through 1942. After 1942, no further records pertain to membership. The collection also includes minutes detailing activities and finances from 1889 through 1981, mission efforts from 1923 through 1962, and a few documents from the merging of Hamilton and American Reformed Church in 1944. In addition, there are records of membership, finances, and activities from American Reformed Church from 1928 until 1944.

The collection is arranged by the type of record; within each of these headings, the records are alphabetical then chronological.

Container List

Box 1

**Hamilton Reformed Church, Hamilton, Michigan
W90-1027.10**

American Reformed Church

Adult Bible Classes Catechism Financial 1962-1977
Adult Bible Classes Meeting Minutes 1938-1954, 1960-1973
Christian Education Committee Meeting Minutes 1955-1959
Church Membership Transfer 1/19/1944
Church Membership Transfer 1915-1934
Church Membership Transfer 1949-1956

American Reformed Church of Hamilton

Financial Records 1937-1950
Financial Records 1954-1961

Box 2

American Reformed Church (cont.)

Senior High Christian Endeavor 1961-1965
Senior/Junior High Christian Endeavor Financial 1941-1960
Junior high Christian Endeavor Attendance Records 1959-1964
Young People's Society/ Christian Endeavor Meeting Minutes 1901-1913
Young People's Society/ Christian Endeavor Meeting Minutes 1915-1930

Box 3

American Reformed Church (cont.)

Young People's Society Meeting Minutes, May 1895-Dec. 1899 (Dutch)
Fynaart East Saugatuck
Sunday School or Catechism Class Lists 1891-1893
First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Congregational Meeting Records 04/1889-03/1901
Fynaart, 04/1889-04/1893
Consistory Minutes 1913-1928

Box 4

First Reformed Church of Hamilton (cont.)

Consistory Minutes, 1889-1901 (Dutch)
American Reformed Church of Hamilton
Consistory Minutes 1928-1937
Consistory Minutes 1937-1944
First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Merger, 1944
Consistory Minutes 1918-1930

Box 5

First Reformed Church of Hamilton (cont.)

**Hamilton Reformed Church, Hamilton, Michigan
W90-1027.10**

Consistory Minutes 1930-1944
Consistory Minutes 1944-1950

Box 6

Hamilton Reformed Church
Consistory Minutes 1950-1957
Consistory Minutes 1966-1970

Box 7

Hamilton Reformed Church (cont.)
Consistory Minutes 1970-1981
Consistory Minutes, 1992-1998
Dedication Services Program 1950
General Mission Accounts 1923-1962

Box 8

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Members and Baptisms 1887-1942 (vol. 1-B)
Members and Baptisms 1887-1942 (vol. 1)
Members and Baptisms 1887-1942 (vol. 2)

Box 9

First Reformed Church of Hamilton (cont.)
Members and Baptisms 1887-1942 (vol. 3)

Box 10

Hamilton Reformed Church
Men's Brotherhood 1951-1963
American Reformed Church
Register of Members 01/01/1914-04/05/1933

Box 11

American Reformed Church (cont.)
Sunday School Meeting Minutes 1896-1922 (Scattered)
Sunday School Meeting Minutes 1923-1927

Box 12

Hamilton Reformed Church

Hamilton Reformed Church, Hamilton, Michigan
W90-1027.10

Women's Society- King's Daughters
Meeting Minutes 1952-1957
Financial Records 1962-1987

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Women's Society-Ladies Society
Constitution/Membership Lists 1914-1933
Financial records 1934-1942
Meeting Minutes 1934-1940
Meeting Minutes 1941-1944

First Reformed Church of Hamilton
Women's Society-Ladies Missionary Society
Membership and Financial Information 1942-1944

Box 13

First Reformed Church of Hamilton (cont.)
Women's Society-League for Service, Meeting Minutes 1926-1929

Hamilton Reformed Church
Women's Society-Reformed Church Women, Financial 1983-1985

Hamilton Reformed Church
Women's Society- Women's Church Guild/Golden Chain Circle Guild
Financial 1955-1959
Financial 1960-1967
Meeting Minutes
1954-1955
1956
1957
1958-1959
1960-1963
1964-1967

Box 14

Hamilton Reformed Church (cont.)
Women's Society, Women's Church Guild For Christian Service
Meeting Minutes 1960-1969
Financial 1960-1971
Financial 1972-1980

Women's Society, Women's Church League
Meeting Minutes 1930-1934
Financial 1945-1961

Hamilton Reformed Church (cont.)
Women's Society, Women's Missionary Society
Financial Records 1926-2015

Box 15

Hamilton Reformed Church, Hamilton, Michigan
W90-1027.10

First Reformed Church of Hamilton (cont.)

Women's Society, Women's Missionary Society

Meeting Minutes

1895-1899, April 1905, April 1914

June 1914- March 1927

April 1927- January 1956, January 1936-December 1936

1937-1943, 1944-1945

1946-1950

Box 16

Hamilton Reformed Church (cont.)

Women's Society, Women's Missionary Society (cont.)

Meeting Minutes (cont.)

1951-1958

1959-1967, 1968-1974

1968-1974

1975-1980, 1981-1983

First Reformed Church of Hamilton

Women's Society, Young Ladies Missionary Society

Meeting Minutes

1911-1918

December 1918- December 1922

Box 17

Hamilton Reformed Church

Miscellaneous Information 1950-2017

Box 18 (Oversized)

First Reformed Church of Hamilton

Members and Baptisms 1887-1942

Box 19 (Oversized)

First Reformed Church of Hamilton

Bible Dutch, Large, leather cover, (bindings in poor condition) Title page includes: Nationally held in Dordrecht the Netherlands in the year MCCXIII in MCCXIX, etc, SIJ A. J. Holman Co. SE Philadelphia

Box 20 (Oversized)

Hamilton Reformed Church, Hamilton, Michigan
W90-1027.10

First Reformed Church of Hamilton

Bible, English, black cover in poor condition, SIJ A. J. Holman Co. SE
Philadelphia

Bible, English, Large, brown cover in poor condition, Copyright 1898
Thompson Thomas New Oxford Quanto Edition

Box 21 (Oversized) (no box yet)

Fist Reformed Church of Hamilton

Bible (on shelf) Original Bible, Dutch (bindings in poor condition), Inscription in
front includes: In 1887, the consistory from ? Congregation gave this Bible as a
gift to the Reformed Congregation, Hamilton, Michigan.